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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Bernau

RETURN TO CIA

EVALUATION

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DATE OF CONTENT

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26 December 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES

REMARKS

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1. On 7 November 1950, the day of the October Revolution, eight units, each of about 150 men, assembled on the drill ground of the Luftnachrichten Kaserne, Bernau (N 53°2' 96). The troops wore tank, artillery, signal, and motor transport insignia. The guns, which had been parked near the main gate for several months, were howitzers of 100 to 120 mm and not of 150 to 200 mm. The guns were used exclusively for drill purposes and were never taken out by troops leaving the installation for field exercises. not more than six tanks were stationed in the installation. Not more than five tanks were ever seen leaving the installation at a time. Another tank has been immobile for several weeks. only the training cadre of the artillery unit stationed in the Luftnachrichten Kaserne has been quartered there for the past six months. Between 7 and 18 November, recruits received basic training by the cadre personnel. Only six of the 12 AT guns previously seen were parked in the billeting area. The radio station was in operation. The numbers of motor vehicles there could not be determined. The fuel dumps in the patch of woods along the northeastern edge of the billeting area were almost completed. The construction of four separate fuel dumps, each guarded by two sentries indicated that the Luftnachrichten Kaserne was occupied by four different units. On 18 November, two JS tanks left the installation.

2. the Soviet quarters at the gas works on Anger-
gang was occupied by a motor transport unit or 100 to 150 men. Trucks
were parked in the yard; trucks
moved into the gas works; and trucks
were parked in front of the quarters. (2)

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No Change in Class.

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This document is hereby regraded to
CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
letter of 16 October 1978 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
Archivist of the United States.

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3. In the motor vehicle repair shop in the former Bergmann armament plant, motorcycles were observed exclusively. [redacted] passenger cars and trucks from all parts of the Soviet Zone of Germany were being repaired and overhauled there. About 500 German workers were employed at the repair shop. There were no indications that tanks were also being repaired at this shop. [redacted]

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(3)

4. On 14 November, eight canvas-covered AA guns were lined up on a parking lot in the billeting area of the pigeon station. Two more guns were seen in nearby emplacements, surrounded by protective mounds of earth, about 1 meter high and having a diameter of about 6 and 4 meters respectively. The first of these two guns was estimated at 100 to 120 mm and had a barrel, without muzzle brake, projecting about 3 meters from the shield which was 175 to 200 cm high. The second gun was estimated at 40 to 50 mm and had a barrel with a funnel-shaped muzzle, projecting about 2 meters beyond the gun shield, which was 100 to 150 cm high. No gun crew was observed at the first gun. The eight AA guns lined up in the yard of the pigeon station had contours similar to the first of the two guns mentioned. Ten trucks [redacted] were standing on the parking lot for motor vehicles. The dummy aircraft attached to a wire was still at the same place. The gasoline bunker was about 5 meters long, 2.5 meters wide, and 2 meters high. The sidewalls were covered with soil and the top was roofed with wood. [redacted] the bunker [redacted] continued underground. Twenty to thirty boxes were stored in the ammunition shed, which was guarded by a sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets. (4)

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